

State of Borth Carolina ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Dec. 3, 2010

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Deadly Parking Lot Shooting Prompts "Last Call" Summary Suspension for Greensboro Club

RALEIGH – Sworn affidavits that a patron leaving a Greensboro club Nov. 28 was fatally shot in an unsupervised back parking lot prompted the NC ABC Commission to issue a "Last Call" summary suspension of the alcohol permits held by Plush Nightlife, 3404 High Point Road.

The summary suspension imposes an immediate suspension of alcohol permits held by the business. The action was requested by the Greensboro Police Department and the state's Alcohol Law Enforcement Division. It is authorized under N.C. General Statute 150B-3(c), which directs the Commission to commence proceedings on the matter with the Office of Administrative Hearings.

"In addition to last weekend's fatal shooting, sworn affidavits indicate that law enforcement agencies have responded to more than 400 calls for service – including 24 for stabbings or gunshot wounds -- since this business opened in 2007," said ABC Chairman Jon Williams, who signed the orders suspending the alcohol permits held by the business. "As a result, the ABC Commission is exercising its authority to put the safety of the public first and to suspend the permits of this business to sell alcohol."

In April, the State ABC Commission announced Last Call – a cooperative initiative with local law enforcement and ALE that streamlines the process for suspending alcohol permits of violent bars and clubs. This is the ninth summary suspension issued since October 2009 by the state ABC Commission.

"ALE and the ABC Commission are working together to safeguard communities across the state," said ALE Director John Ledford.

ABOUT THE ABC COMMISSION

North Carolina is one of 19 states to regulate alcohol through a control system. Since 1937, the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission has provided regulation and control over the sale, purchase, transportation, manufacture, consumption and possession of alcoholic beverages in the state of North Carolina. The Commission oversees more than 25,000 permits allowing alcohol sales by more than 17,000 retail outlets across the state. In fiscal year 2010, liquor sales returned more than \$260 million in taxes and revenue to benefit the General Fund and the budgets of local cities and counties that sell spirits.